

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Merrill et al.**

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: **10/596,221**

Group Art Unit: Unknown

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Title: **Secreted Neural Apoptosis Inhibiting Proteins**

POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I, Ross J. Oehler, an Officer of Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc., Assignee of the above-identified Application, hereby appoint the attorneys and/or agents associated with the Customer No.(s) provided below as attorneys and/or agents with full power to prosecute this application on behalf of Assignee and to transact all of Assignee's business in connection with the above-identified Application in the Patent and Trademark Office:

Customer No.: 005487

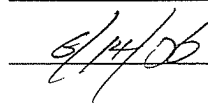
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